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(73) Proprietor(s):
Brigitte de Zaepffel, Vesenz

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(72) Inventor(s):
Brigitte de Zaepffel, Vesenz

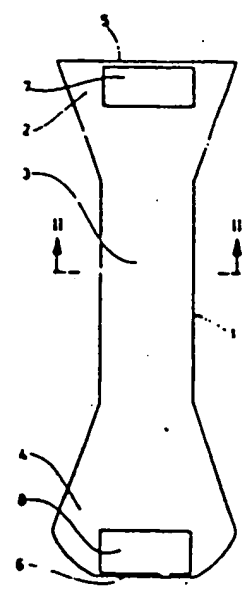
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(74) Representative:
Bugnion S.A., Geneve-Champel

(54) Sanitary napkin

(57) The napkin is formed of a trapezoidal front portion (2), a rectangular intermediate portion (3) and a flared rear portion (4) with convergent rounded edges such that when folded in the middle it takes the shape of a panty. A self-adhesive patch (7, 8) is provided on its inner face, along the front outer edges, intended to stick directly to the skin. The napkin is constituted of several successive layers, an inner layer of vegetable fibers, several intermediate layers of cellulose or cotton and an impermeable outer layer.



Claims

1. Sanitary napkin characterized by the fact that it includes a trapezoidal front portion (2), a rectangular intermediate portion (3) and a flared rear portion (4) with convergent rounded edges such that when folded in the middle it takes the shape of a panty, the said napkin including at least one absorbent inner layer (10) and an impermeable outer layer (11), and that a self-adhesive patch (7, 8) is provided on its inner face along the front, outer edges, intended to adhere directly to the skin.
2. Napkin in accordance with claim 1, characterized by the fact that the absorbent inner layer includes a first layer of vegetable fibers (9) and several layers of cellulose and/or cotton.
3. Napkin in accordance with one of the preceding claims, characterized by the fact that its edges are heat-sealed.
4. Napkin in accordance with one of the claims 1 or 2, characterized by the fact that the intermediate portion (3) is thicker than the front (2) and rear (4) [typo in original] portions.
5. Napkin in accordance with claim 1, characterized by the fact that the self-adhesive patch (7, 8) is made of non-allergenic material and that, before use, it is covered with a protective sheet.
6. Napkin in accordance with claim 1, characterized by the fact that the impermeable outer layer (11) is a sheet of flexible plastic material.

The present invention relates to a sanitary napkin intended in particular to be used at night.

In the field of menstruation protection, the current trend for manufacturers is to reduce the dimensions of napkins with a view to rendering them invisible and less bothersome. Another current means of protection is the internal tampon which has been adopted by a majority of women. The latter solution is not however tolerated by all women and gynecologists often condemn the use of these internal tampons which sometimes cause health problems due to the lack of oxygenation of the vaginal mucosa. It is thus preferable to use external means of protection. However, while the current external napkins give complete satisfaction from the viewpoint of comfort during the day, they are not very efficacious for good protection at night; this is why women who have an abundant flow, especially girls, have to resort to the use of a special protective panty for nighttime and attach the said napkin to the panty, either with pins or by an adhesive element which attaches to the panty. This solution is neither comfortable nor esthetic.

The present invention proposes to palliate these above-mentioned disadvantages.

To do this, the sanitary napkin in accordance with the invention is characterized by the fact that it includes a front portion of trapezoidal shape, a rectangular intermediate portion and a flared rear part with convergent rounded edges, such that when folded by its middle it takes on the shape of a panty, the said napkin including at least one inner absorbent layer and an impermeable outer layer, and that is provided with a self-adhesive patch on the inner face along the front and rear edges intended to adhere directly to the skin.

Thus this napkin, by virtue of its shape, does away with the use of a special panty for the night, it is very comfortable and serves simultaneously as protection and a panty. Thanks to the adhesive band that attaches directly to the skin of the user, the napkin is always firmly in place and does not risk slipping during the night as is the case with napkins attached to a special panty by pins or other means.

In addition, this type of napkin can advantageously be used in other situations than menstruation, for example for persons suffering from urinary incontinence, or for those confined to bed.

The attached design shows as an example a form of execution of the invention.

Fig. 1 is a top view of the napkin according to the invention.

Fig. 2 is a sectional view along the line II-II of Fig. 1.

As is seen in Fig. 1, the napkin is formed of three separate parts, a front portion 2 of trapezoidal shape, an intermediate part 3 of rectangular shape, and a flared rear part 4 with convergent rounded edges. The front extremity 5 and rear extremity 6 are rectilinear and the napkin, once it is folded by its middle, has the shape of a panty which exactly fits the shape of the human body.

A self-adhesive patch 7, 8, is provided on the inner face of the napkin and along the front edge 5 and rear edge 6 which, when the napkin is not being used, is protected by a protective sheet, and which during use adheres directly on to the skin of the user. These self-adhesive patches are naturally made of appropriate non-allergenic material.

In the sectional view illustrated in Fig. 2, the napkin includes a first layer 9 made of plant fibers, several successive absorbent layers 10 of cellulose or cotton and finally an impermeable protective layer 11 made of flexible plastic material or other appropriate material. These different layers of material are fastened together by their heat-sealed edges. In the intermediate portion 3, the absorbent layers of cellulose or cotton are preferably thicker so as to assure better protection.

Fig. 1

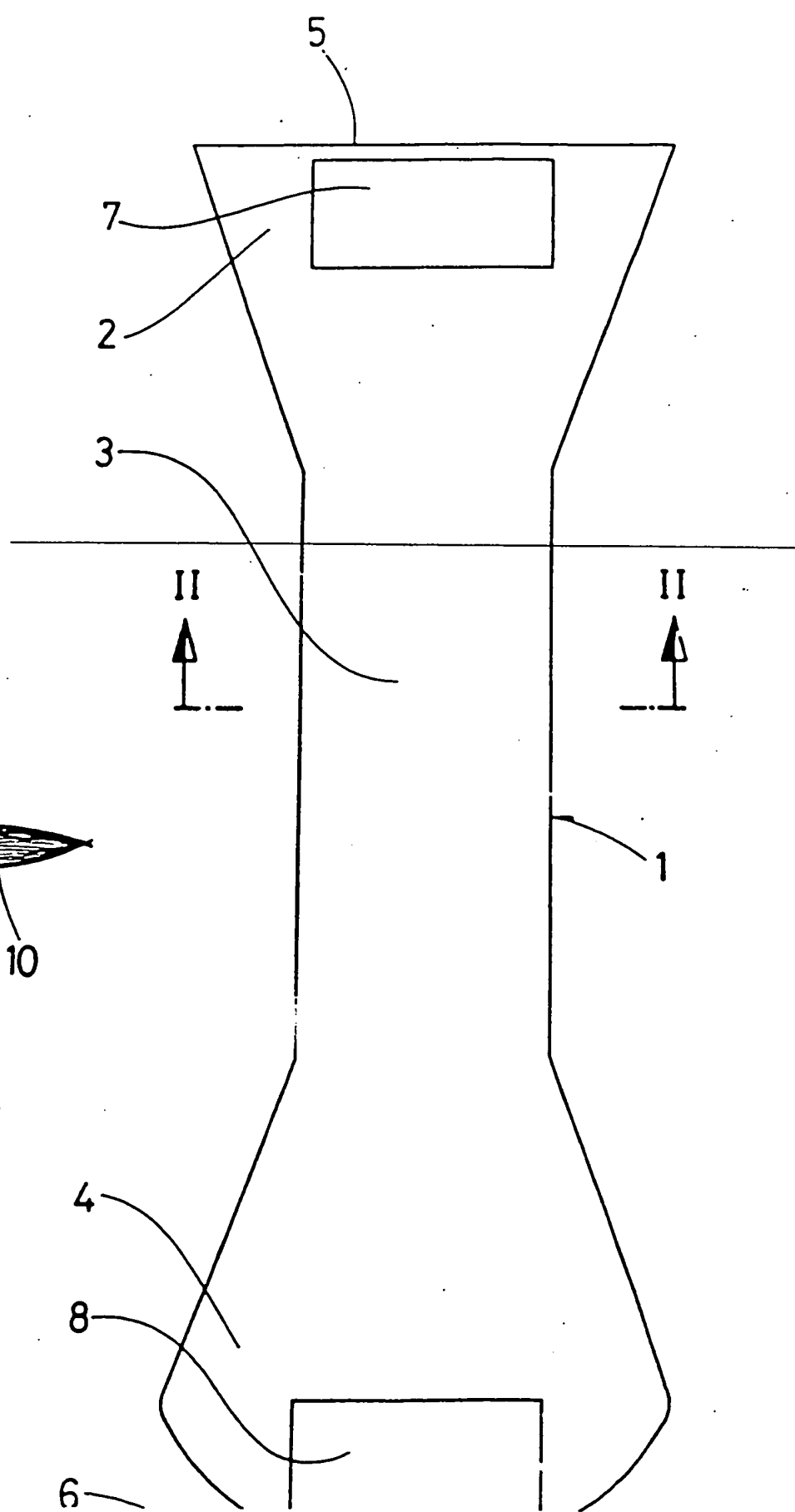


Fig. 2

